

### Quick weather forecast

If the last couple of systems weren't enough to wet your whistle, there are 2 additional rounds of rain to accomplish it. It's only mid-October, and we are looking at a 3-day total precipitation forecast of 2" in the Feather River Basin, and up to 7" along the north coast!

Some places in the Shasta/ Trinity area could pick up 3-4" of precip.

With a deep low over the Gulf of Alaska, and an impressive moisture source of 1.6" of precipitable water in place, we'll have a pretty significant storm over Northern California on Friday and Friday night.

Prior to that, warm frontal rain and clouds move in Thursday. None of this wet weather has the oomph to make it to Southern California, or even the central valley. But, there will be a bull's-eye of precipitation that moves from north to south along the Sierra crest on Friday night into Saturday morning, along with gusty winds reminiscent of December. After that final feature, the strong jet core that's been instigating all this wet weather will draw northward, allowing us to dry out and warm up.

Total Feather River Basin precipitation for the next 10 days, if adjusted for new model forecasts as of 1pm, would be about 2". All of it occurring in the next 3 days. That's on top of the 2.4" that's already fallen this month. We have an impressive seasonal total rainfall of 1.7" for the 8-Station index as of October 15th; 113% of average.

What does that mean for your weather the next few days? Redding/Red Bluff could get three quarters of an inch of rain Thursday and Friday.

A half inch is predicted for the Bay area. But much higher totals are possible in orographically favored spots, because there are impressive dynamics in place, even if briefly. Interior valley locations from Marysville down to Sacramento will have rain showers on Friday, with no rain forecast for Stockton/Modesto. Strong winds are likely across all mountainous terrain with the cold front push Friday. Snow level will be quite high on Thursday (near 11,000'), dropping to a minimum of about 7,000' for the Upper Sacramento and Feather/Yuba, American River basins on Friday night/ Saturday. The weather will clear up and become quite nice starting Saturday afternoon for the Sacramento area (sooner north, later south). Then you can expect a great, dry, sunny day on Sunday, with upper 70's, to possibly even 80 degrees for the valley and interior Bay Area locations.

As far as the long range is concerned, with La Nina strengthening, look for the first few months of winter to be wet. That's the trend that most often happens for Northern California in a weak to moderate La Nina. However, this particular set of ocean temperatures can lead to a drier than normal season for Northern California, overall.

That's because the most likely scenario is a let-up in the precipitation midwinter. Starting in January, the jet stream could send the storms further north, with less than normal rain for the balance of the winter/spring. That's if, and only if, the La Nina stays weak to moderate, and does not strengthen, or die. If it changes intensity, the long-range forecast will have to be updated. For Southern California, any La Nina development is basically bad news. Dry to persistent drought conditions are forecast there this winter.

Look for the next Weather and Climate Newsletter in 2 weeks, on October 31st. Halloween is normally about the time to see the rainy transition that has already taken place. By then we'll be tallying the numbers for what is hopefully a good start to the season!

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